

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6860

Petitions of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. )  
(VELCO), Vermont Transco, LLC, Green Mountain Power )  
Corporation (GMP), and Central Vermont Public Service )  
Corporation (CVPS) for a certificate of public good, )  
pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 248, authorizing VELCO to )  
construct the so-called Northwest Vermont Reliability )  
Project, said project to include: (1) upgrades at 12 existing )  
VELCO and GMP substations located in Charlotte, Essex, )  
Hartford, New Haven, North Ferrisburgh, Poultney, )  
Shelburne, South Burlington, Vergennes, West Rutland, )  
Williamstown, and Williston, Vermont; (2) the construction )  
of a new 345 kV transmission line from West Rutland to )  
New Haven; (3) the reconstruction of a portion of a 34.5 kV )  
and 46 kV transmission line from New Haven to South )  
Burlington; and (4) the reconductoring of a 115 kV )  
transmission line from Williamstown to Barre, Vermont )

Order entered: 3/27/2008

**ORDER RE QUEEN CITY LAY-DOWN AREA**

On February 22, 2008, Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. ("VELCO") filed information regarding a proposed Queen City lay-down area with the Public Service Board ("Board"). VELCO intends to utilize an area at the Shelburne Business Park owned by Queen City Printers ("QCP") as a staging area for equipment, materials, and supplies associated with the construction of the 115 kV line. The proposed site "is located in a mixed residential and light industrial setting"<sup>1</sup> and has been previously used as a staging area for the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

On March 24, 2008, the Town of Shelburne ("Shelburne") filed a letter stating that it has no objection to the proposed lay-down area, provided that the Board impose certain conditions regarding VELCO's use of the site consistent with representations made by VELCO regarding the

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1. VELCO letter of February 22 at 1.

use of the lay-down area. Shelburne represents that VELCO and the Department of Public Service agree with Shelburne's filing.

The representations reported in Shelburne's March 24 letter are listed below.

- Work activity on the QCP site will begin as early as 6 a.m., Monday through Friday, with the possibility of work on an occasional Saturday. Anticipated noise impacts during early morning hours will involve only light worker vehicles (personal cars, pickup trucks) arriving at the site, doors opening and closing, and workers' voices. On average, no more than ten (10) worker vehicles are anticipated to arrive and park at the site on a daily basis. VELCO will employ all reasonable measures to minimize noise impacts during early morning hours. Parking is proposed to occur on the QCP lot(s) (although, given the relatively small number of worker vehicles proposed, the Town is considering authorizing VELCO to park worker vehicles along the existing cul-de-sac to further minimize impacts to neighbors).
- VELCO will make all possible efforts to ensure that heavy trucks and construction vehicles on the QCP site will be limited to between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. VELCO will set expectations with delivery personnel to prohibit idling of vehicles to minimize impacts to the neighborhood from exhaust fumes and will take all reasonable measures to suppress dust created in connection with work on the site. (The Town understands, based on VELCO's representations, that VELCO is not able to prohibit the use of back-up beepers due to OSHA regulations).
- VELCO may employ nighttime security personnel, to secure the QCP lay-down area and protect materials, tools, vehicles and equipment from the threat of theft and/or vandalism. However, there will be no outside nighttime lighting of the lay-down area.
- VELCO will provide the Town Manager and all adjoining landowners with a single point of contact for any issues related to the lay-down area, will promptly respond to comments or concerns from the Town or area residents, and will take all reasonable steps to resolve the same.
- VELCO's use of the QCP lay-down area is not intended to exceed twelve (12) months in duration (from the commencement of use), and is anticipated by Mr. Hoover, VELCO's construction manager, to be potentially shorter so long as VELCO's right-of-way acquisition does not become a barrier.

In addition, Shelburne attaches several letters from landowners expressing concern with VELCO's proposed use of the site.

After reviewing the proposed location of the site, we are concerned with the noise from the site, and in particular, the 6 a.m. start time. This concern is magnified by the fact that the site could be used for up to a one-year period.

In previous orders we have addressed the issue of construction noise at substations and required the submittal of a plan to control noise at the Shelburne substation.<sup>2</sup> In the noise plan approved for the Shelburne substation, VELCO was not allowed to begin work until 7 a.m. We find that such a condition should be imposed for the QCP lay-down. Further, the representations contained in Shelburne's letter indicate that there will be some occasional Saturday work at the site. Given that the site is a lay-down area, it should be possible to deliver materials from the lay-down area to the construction site during the week and avoid the need for any work at the lay-down area on Saturdays. Accordingly, we will prohibit VELCO from utilizing the lay-down area on Saturdays, unless VELCO can make a specific showing justifying use of the area on Saturdays, including a demonstration that the proposed Saturday use reflects the minimum feasible use.

We approve the use of the QCP site as a lay-down area consistent with the representations listed in Shelburne's March 24 letter, with the addition of the 7 a.m. and Saturday limitations listed above.

SO ORDERED.

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2. Docket 6860, Order of 4/3/07.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 27th day of March, 2008.

_____	)	
	)	PUBLIC SERVICE
	)	
s/ David C. Coen	)	BOARD
	)	
	)	OF VERMONT
s/ John D. Burke	)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: March 27, 2008

ATTEST: s/ Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*